

LOCATION: **PORTLAND, OR**

REPORT(S): **Promoting Reusable Checkout Bags in Portland – One Year Report (2012)**

ORDINANCE SUMMARY

Passed: 2011 / Implemented: 2011 / Expanded 2012

Ordinance No. : 184759 (Code Chapter 17.103)

PLASTIC SUMMARY:

- Bans plastic bags that are less than 4.0 mil thick
- Plastic bags must be 4.0 mil or thicker to be considered “reusable”
- Must be recyclable

PAPER SUMMARY:

- No fee on paper bags
- Paper bags must contain recycled content
- Paper bags must be recyclable

ORDINANCE ASSESSMENT

KEY FINDINGS:

- Reusable bags use increased 304%¹ (pg. 1)
- Highly recycled paper bags used increased 491%¹ (pg. 1)
- Zero penalties were issued to retailers for non-compliance with the ordinance¹ (pg. 1)
- After the release of the One Year Report (2012), the Portland City Council voted unanimously to expand the ordinance to all retailers in the city.² (pg. 1)

RESOURCES

¹Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, *Promoting Reusable Checkout Bags in Portland*. Portland, OR: 2012.

² Portland Bureau of Planning and Sustainability, *Important Information Regarding New Plastic Checkout Bag Polity*. Portland, OR: 2012.

Portland, OR Carryout Bag Ordinance: [LINK TO ORDINANCE](#)

Promoting Reusable Checkout Bags in Portland – One Year Report: [LINK TO REPORT](#)

Important Information Regarding New Plastic Checkout Bag Policy: [LINK TO MEMO](#)